

Press Release

COMMONING: THE DISCUSSION

In the context of the *StadtFabrik* [City factory], the MAK hosts a panel discussion with leaders in the field about the opportunities and creative-economy aspects of commoning.

Date Tuesday, 17 May 2016, 6:30 p.m.
Venue MAK FORUM
MAK, Stubenring 5, 1010 Vienna
Free admission

The concept of commoning is gaining ever more importance as a possible trendsetter for an alternatively structured social and economic future that is oriented around the common good. Curated by the IDRV – Institute of Design Research Vienna, the *StadtFabrik* (a project in the context of the cooperation *design> new strategies* between the MAK and the Vienna Business Agency, creative center departure) will launch a debate about possible ways in which the creative economy and design can contribute to commoning with regard to positive social change.

Conceived as a real-time research laboratory, the *StadtFabrik* explores new creative industrial occupations and future urban potentialities in a city undergoing transformation. Against a backdrop of urbanization and automation, new strategies will be negotiated for Vienna as a space for living, working, and producing. Commons (common goods)—understood to be material and spatial resources; immaterial goods such as information, knowledge, art, and culture; and software—form one of the project’s key focal points. Only in combination with innovative social processes like co-creation or co-production—namely commoning—do commons become usable.

The discussion at the MAK will introduce principles of the economy for the common good, as well as applications from creative industrial practice.

Panelists:

Christian Felber, author and advisor on economic and social issues, founding member of Attac Austria, initiator of the project “Banking for the Common Good,” and developer of the alternative economic system “Economy for the Common Good,”
Vienna

Gabu Heindl, architect and urban planner, Chairperson of the Board of the ÖGFA (Austrian Society for Architecture), author of *Gestaltungsleitlinien für den Wiener Donaukanal*, Vienna

Lisa Muhr, founder of the fashion label *Göttin des Glücks* (3rd balance sheet for the common good 2015), course director of “Green Economy” at the FH Wieselburg

Magdalena Reiter, designer, Open Design protagonist, Linz

Moderator:

Harald Gründl, design theorist, head of IDRIV– Institute of Design Research Vienna, designer (EOOS), Vienna

The *StadtFabrik* (for details, visit MAK.at) ties back to the approaches initiated in the VIENNA BIENNALE 2015 project *2051: Smart Life in the City* and carries on the idea of demonstrators (experimental arrangements in urban space). Office hours to discuss where things stand with the project—with spontaneous determination of topics and opportunities for participation—are open to the public every Tuesday from 6–7 p.m. (MAK DESIGN SPACE, Stubenring 5, 1010 Vienna).

Further details about research topics and the public program will be announced soon.

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